

February 19, 1976

I'm willing to add this to the list of other evil things that are attached to my name. I don't feel that it's an evil thing to do. I ask you to not consider offering this proposed constitutional amendment, but rather that you indefinitely postpone it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mills.

SENATOR MILLS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Chambers has been most articulate. He seems to elude your attention at the last, however, he's addressing a most important issue. I think when LB 666 came about the first time only Senators Chambers and Dworak did speak on it. There should have been more people opposing this particular issue. Senator Chambers mentioned about taking the heat. We can certainly do that. I think there are certain people who apply pressure according to this ... their wishes about this; but why should we change the Constitution of the State of Nebraska?

I would ask you to support Senator Chambers motion and indefinitely postpone 666.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dickinson.

SENATOR DICKINSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I have a question ... maybe of the Clerk. Mr. Clerk, what is the status of the bill? I was under the impression that when we talked about the bill last week that it we ... that we struck number 2 ... line 17, page 2 of the bill. Now the E & R amendment.... Maybe Senator Chambers would help me. We didn't strike anything?

CLERK: The only thing that's been adopted have been the Committee amendments and the E & R amendment. The Committee amendment simply adds some material to it.

SENATOR DICKINSON: OK. I wanted to ask that question. I'll just make a simple statement. I agree with Senator Chambers. I think it's bad legislation. We shouldn't pass it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, colleagues. I again rise in support of Senator Chambers amendment. I won't be repetitious. I think Senator Chambers very eloquently stated the position. I personally am a strong supporter of private education, I support it with my own personal resources and that's my privilege, and that's everyone's privilege within the state. That should be a personal decision that you make. We also have responsibility in the area of the public sector, in public education. Specifically in one part of this particular constitutional amendment is that responsibility toward the handicapped. I don't think we can duck out of our public responsibility by shifting this burden over the private sector or trying to offer a pittance of support to the private sector for this public responsibility.